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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Agenda item 6
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

Belgium, Switzerland and Turkey: revised draft resolution

Promoting the implementation of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System for licit trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling article 31 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol[1] and article 12 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[2] which require the issuance of import and export authorizations for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recalling also the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016,[3] in which Member States recommended expediting, in accordance with national legislation, the process of issuing import and export authorizations for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes by using the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System,

Recalling further the publication entitled *Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs: Ensuring Adequate Access for Medical and Scientific Purposes*,[4] a supplement to the *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2015*,[5] in which it was recommended that countries should establish proper and feasible monitoring mechanisms at the national level and make use of improved technical systems such as the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System,

Noting that there has been an increased volume of licit international trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, which is expected to continue to grow as those substances become increasingly available for medical and scientific purposes in more countries,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[2] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[3] General Assembly resolution S-30/1, annex.
[4] E/INCB/2015/1/Supp.1.
[5] E/INCB/2015/1.

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Recalling its resolutions 55/6 of 16 March 2012, 56/7 of 15 March 2013 and 58/10 of 17 March 2015, in which it urged Member States to promote and facilitate the use of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System for the exchange of import and export authorizations and requested the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide training to national competent authorities on the use of the System,

Recalling also the *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2017*,[6] in which the Board encouraged all national competent authorities to register with and start using the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System as soon as possible, so as to modernize it and to improve the efficiency and workflow of national competent authorities,

Noting that the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System will facilitate the real-time exchange of import and export authorizations between importing and exporting countries in a safe and secure environment and assist national competent authorities in managing the increasing workload of processing import and export authorizations,

Recognizing that some Governments have followed the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned publications to handle the continued increase in international trade in those substances and consequently the workload of national competent authorities,

Aware that the continuing administration and further development of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System would rely on voluntary contributions from Member States,

1. *Welcomes* the political and technical support provided by all Member States during electronic International Import and Export Authorization System user-group meetings to further improve the implementation of the System;

2. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate the use of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System to ensure the maximum possible efficiency in the issuance of import and export authorizations, including through the automated, real-time exchange of data and information between national competent authorities, and the necessary level of security in the international licit trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes;

3. *Invites* Member States to share their experiences using the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System with countries that are their trading partners, so as to increase its impact and effectiveness and realize its full potential;

4. *Also invites* Member States to consider what further measures should be adopted to expedite the issuing of import and export authorizations and to reduce the workload associated with processing those authorizations, thereby increasing the efficiency of the national competent authorities and contributing to the continuing administration and further development of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System;

5. *Urges* the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board to promote the utilization of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System and the realization of its full potential, including by facilitating the sharing of experiences and best practices among Member States;

6. *Invites* the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board to identify the obstacles that have so far prevented wider participation in the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System, to make concrete proposals to

[6] E/INCB/2017/1.

increase the number of participating Member States and to report the results to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its next session;

7. *Also invites* the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board, in full and close cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to provide relevant training and technical support to national competent authorities on the implementation of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System, including on interfacing the System with the electronic systems of national competent authorities;

8. *Invites* Member States and other donors to consider providing extrabudgetary resources to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the maintenance of the electronic International Import and Export Authorization System and to the International Narcotics Control Board for promoting its utilization, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.